

HOUSE BILL NO. 639

INTRODUCED BY PETERSON

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF MONTANA AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 1, OF THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION PROHIBITING STATE GOVERNMENT FROM LEVYING OR REQUIRING THAT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS LEVY PROPERTY TAXES UNLESS APPROVED BY THE ELECTORATE IN A STATEWIDE ELECTION."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Article VIII, section 1, of The Constitution of the State of Montana is amended to read:

"Section 1. Tax purposes -- property tax prohibited for state government. (1) ~~Taxes~~ Except as provided in subsection (2), taxes shall be levied by general laws for public purposes.

(2) State government may not levy a tax on property, and it may not require any local government or school district to levy property taxes UNLESS APPROVED BY THE ELECTORATE IN A STATEWIDE ELECTION."

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Submission to electorate. This amendment shall be submitted to the qualified electors of Montana at the general election to be held in November 2006 by printing on the ballot the full title of this act and the following:

[] FOR prohibiting state government from levying or requiring that local governments or school districts levy property taxes UNLESS APPROVED BY THE ELECTORATE.

[] AGAINST prohibiting state government from levying or requiring that local governments or school districts levy property taxes UNLESS APPROVED BY THE ELECTORATE.

COORDINATION SECTION. Section 3. Coordination instruction. If [this act] is passed but ___ Bill No. ___ [LC 425] is not passed and approved, then [this act] is void.

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